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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
- EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -
EXAMINING GROUP ART UNIT 3773**

Atty. Docket No: 2850 (203-3277)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Cunningham et al. EXAMINER: Melissa K. Ryckman
SERIAL NO.: 10/618,990 GROUP: Art Unit 3773
FILED: July 14, 2003 DATED: March 23, 2009
FOR: **SURGICAL COBRA HEAD SUTURE NEEDLE**

Confirmation No.: **5967**
Mail Stop: **AF**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
mailed on January 21, 2009, please consider the above-identified application as follows:

A complete **listing of the Claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on date below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 23, 2009

Paul J. Natof